Division of Commercial Fisheries Sam Rabung, Director

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Advisory Announcement

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NORTHERN SOUTHEAST OUTSIDE (NSEO) SECTION LINGCOD BYCATCH **CLOSURE FOR SALMON TROLL FISHERY**

The retention of lingcod bycatch in the commercial salmon troll fishery will close in the entire Northern Southeast Outside (NSEO) Section at 11:59 pm, Thursday, August 6, 2020. The 2020 NSEO salmon troll lingcod bycatch fishery guideline harvest level (GHL) is 3,200 round pounds. Based on reports from the grounds and harvest data to date, the department anticipates that the GHL will be taken by the time of the closure.

Lingcod bycatch in the salmon troll fishery remains open in the Icy Bay Subdistrict (IBS), East Yakutat (EYKT) Section, Central Southeast Outside (CSEO) Section, Southern Southeast Outer Coast (SSEOC) Sector, Northern Southeast Inside (NSEI) Subdistrict, and Southern Southeast Internal Waters (SSEIW) Sector. Lingcod catches will be closely monitored, and fishermen should expect additional area closures on short notice. Closure notices will be announced by ADF&G advisory announcement, United States Coast Guard "Notice to Mariners" report, and the National Weather Service marine broadcast.

Updates of area closures for all directed and bycatch lingcod fisheries are available on the Groundfish Hotline at 907-747-4882. For additional information on groundfish bycatch in the salmon troll fishery, refer to the ADF&G lingcod allocation advisory announcement issued on January 2, 2020.

Under Alaska's Health Mandates 10, 17, and 18, commercial fishing is an Essential Business and is part of Alaska's Essential Services and Critical Infrastructure. Commercial fishermen should ensure that all travel and other activities in support of commercial fishing operations follow protocols in Alaska COVID-19 Health Mandates. COVID-19 Health Mandates may be found here: https://gov.alaska.gov/home/covid19-healthmandates/

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1G1220.

Advisory Announcement website: http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main.

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